(3) ...is nothing to be done anew. The law is that public institu-
special revenue officers ...mmunities. If anybody obstructs you, you may seek remedy
earnestly prayed for. ...'s court. If any office is inaccessible on account of the fact
reserved forests might ...le, it should be brought to the notice of the Government and
and that they might ...then take the necessary action to make it accessible.
instalments. He als...
the members of ...ilties of Pulayas in regard to habitation.
sionaries who ...

The *Aiyan Kali* (Member, Nominated) expatiated on the difficulties ex-
to the med by Pulayas in securing lands for habitation. He said that many of the lands
already...ered in the names of Pulayas in the Vilappil *pakuthi*, Neyyattinkara taluk, had
as in ...dy been occupied by other people and that they did not get possession of many
blis...her lands, although they were paying tax for the same. He prayed that the
...lands in question might be delivered to them after removing all encroachments.
He next requested that 50 cents of lands per head might be assigned to Pulayas
from survey Nos. 236 and 238/2 in the Tiruvallam Village, Neyyattinkara taluk,
measuring 172 acres and forming a portion of the Vellayani lake.

Dewan's reply.—In Shertalai and other backwater taluks we have already ordered the registry of lands. If you point out any particular land that you want, the local officers will deal with it.

If lands registered in your name have been occupied by other people, the executive Government can do nothing. You should seek redress in civil courts.

As regards the Vallayani *chira*, no portion of it can be given. The water of that *chira* is useful for cultivation. We do not propose to auction that *chira* now.

co...

142. Changes in the condition of the Pulayas and the consequent loss to the community.

...*Aiyan Kali* (Member, Nominated) began by saying that the strength of the Pulaya community of the State was only 4 lakhs and odd as per the last Census, and that ...per cent. of the members of that community had embraced other religions, the main causes being poverty and untouchability. He complained that Pulayas did not get any help worth mentioning from caste Hindus, and since the Christian missionaries gave their help, many Pulayas were attracted to that religion. The treatment accorded to Pulay... was worse than that given to cattle, and the disability was removed as soon as the...were converted to Christianity or Mahomedanism. The existing untouchability was not based on spiritual grounds, and the help of Government and the caste Hindus was essential for the advancement of his community. The members of his community were destitute of wealth, wisdom and cleanliness; they had neither houses nor places of worship, and neither wells nor tanks for their use. In spite of the orders of the Government was allowed Pulayas to attend all schools, courts, etc., there were various other disabilities under which they laboured calling for relief. The Member requested that they might be given more help than that given to other communities. Government might give a few wells and temples for their use. Grants should be given to the unqualified teachers who hailed from his community, so that Pulaya children might be made easily educated in the 1st and 2nd classes of primary schools. He also prayed that some members of his community might be entertained as peons in courts, etc.

Dewan's reply.—Only two points require a reply. ...have already answered the other points, *viz.*, wells, appointments, etc. You want Government to build places of public worship for your community. It is not the function of Government to build places of public worship.

Then in regard to the change of faith among mem...of ...very other community and ...ernment cannot do anything.

...a very costly pro...
...gestions may be

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Member.—There are Government temples and Devaswoms for other communities. Government can give us timber and land free and help us to build temples for our community.

Dewan.—Asking for timber or land is different from asking Government to build temples.

143. Urgent needs of the Sambavar community in the matter of roads, wells and dwelling sites, as also some suggestions for their educational and economic advancement.

Mr. K. Madhavan, (Member, Nominated), after expressing the gratitude of the Sambavar community to the Government for adopting a policy of benevolent sympathy, requested them to see that the orders issued by them with reference to that community were given effect to without delay and obstruction in the subordinate offices. He made the following requests in particular.

(1) Arrangements should be made for sinking wells in villages devoid of them, because much difficulty was being experienced by the community in getting good drinking water. He mentioned that several wells ordered to be sunk as many as ten years ago had not yet been sunk owing to the indifference of the officers concerned. The cost of a well was only Rs. 250 in Nanjanad. The Member prayed that Government might meet the entire cost on that account, as the people were poor.

(2) Immediate steps should be taken for the construction of approach roads to the villages of the community sanctioned ten years ago. The Member suggested that the contracts for those works might be given to the Salvation Army so as to avoid delay and unnecessary expenditure. He invited the particular attention of the Government to the need for approach roads to three of their most important villages, *viz.*, Karkadu, Kadati and Ratnapuram. The Member further urged the early construction of the road to Marutankulam, sanctioned four years ago, on which not more than Rs. 15 had been spent up to date.

(3) Action should also be taken in the direction of providing the members of his community with suitable building sites where they could live a healthy and independent life, each house site being at least 5 cents in extent, and that wherever possible new villages should be established by the acquisition of suitable sites from private parties or by utilising lands in the possession of Government. He drew attention to the fact that, though four years had elapsed since Government resolved to spend Rs. 30,000 annually for acquiring building sites for them, nothing had been accomplished so far. He observed that, in certain localities such as Terkulam, Allankaramulai, Edakkodu and Seetappal selected for providing house sites, the area intended for assignment to each house was less than the minimum suggested by him and pointed out that it was necessary to keep to that minimum. He requested that a list might be prepared of the sites available, so that new villages might be established to serve as outlets for congested villages in the neighbourhood.

(4) The impediments imposed in the way of their acquiring *poramboke* lands by the subordinates of the Revenue Department might be removed completely and plots of land within reserved forests, formerly cultivated by their forefathers and now lying waste without any trees growing on them, might be assigned to them for cultivation on payment of a tax of 4 annas per acre as in British India. Most of the good *puduval* lands in the lists put up in taluk cutcherries were not available as it was recorded that they were required for other purposes.

(5) Colonies of the members of his community might be established by Government on the plains where lands were available both for cultivation and for dwelling sites. It was undesirable to select malarious tracts for the purpose.

(6) The following educational concessions were then prayed for by the Member.

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